



THE Macdonald Farm Journal

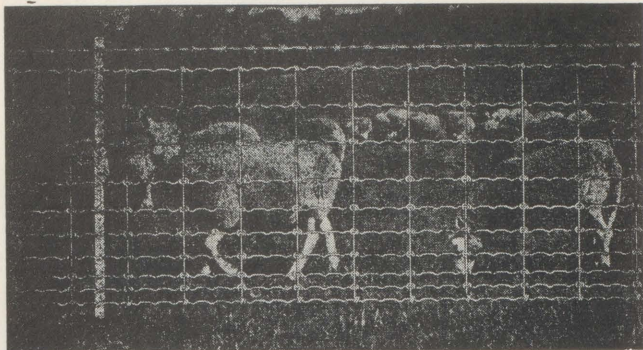
VOLUME 17 No. 9

MAY 1957

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A Test Case—Apples

Farmers and other workers associated with the agricultural industry will surely wish the recently established Quebec Agricultural Marketing Board every success. With similar boards operating in most provinces, and with new federal legislation strengthening the power of such boards, there is a real opportunity to improve the position of the industry. However, every marketing arrangement which may be considered by this Board carries some dangers or risks. Consequently it is to be hoped and expected that the Board will not allow farm groups to rush into arrangements which might possibly fail. For if this should happen, the Board would get the blame. No marketing scheme can safely be undertaken until the average number of the producers group understands the whole problem.

For a year or perhaps even two years one of the major tasks of the Marketing Board will be helping to educate farm groups about what marketing arrangements authorized by the Board *can and cannot do*. An equally important job is one of undertaking research which again would show the opportunities and dangers which attach to any particular marketing proposal. While the Board has scarcely begun operations, it can be said with candour that by its very existence, and by its educational work, the Board is already having wholesome effects in the field of agricultural marketing.

But there is one farm marketing problem in Quebec that may not wait on either research or education. This is the problem of apples. There is in 1957 some danger of the repetition of the unfortunate 1955 situation when a large crop brought disastrously low prices. While this may not happen again in 1957, some means of meeting the contingency should be devised. Fortunately, a large part of the apple industry is concentrated in a few counties and it has a well organized producer's association and a very good cooperative marketing system. These two factors will greatly aid in any measures that may be necessary for 1957.

Whether a marketing arrangement under the authority of the new Board is required is not yet clear. There are dangers in rushing into even the

apple marketing problem. However, one or two measures aimed at improving the marketing situation might be taken— and these perhaps without implementing a formal marketing scheme. The most important need for the coming season is the rigid enforcement of the existing grading and inspection regulations. Too many low quality apples have found way to the fresh fruit market which should be reserved for only the highest quality product. Other apples must be diverted to processing or left on the farm. If a strict implementation of existing inspection and grading regulations should not be feasible, then a marketing scheme under the auspices of the new Board might be necessary. But this could be limited to requiring inspection and grading and to the regulation of trucking of apples. This might be as far as it would be prudent to go in 1957. The Board has wisely stated that it will not be rushed into any marketing scheme, and that in any proposal presented to it minimum conditions must be met.

But in the meantime research and education *must proceed*. With a long term chronic oversupply of apples threatening the entire Canadian market, studies of the possibility of regulating supply and channeling supply between the fresh fruit and the processing market must go on; the question of storage and the movement of apples through the marketing channels must all be investigated. Perhaps most important of all, the demand for apples must be studied. Preliminary work on this subject at Macdonald College suggests that the long term prospect for the demand for apples as fresh fruit is not particularly attractive. But this finding should not be accepted until it is established by throughgoing research. And this must start *immediately*. It is equally important that studies on the possible extension of the market for apples in processed form be commenced. Members of the Board have properly stressed the need for an immediate start on a comprehensive research programme.

Other products may generally have to wait until next spring. But perhaps the apple problem should be attacked in the summer of 1957 simply because it cannot wait.

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Red Raspberries For Profit

A few hints that may prove valuable

by C. D. Taper

There should be a spot in your garden for a row of red raspberries. They are easy to look after and are popular as jam or dessert with most members of every family. Many farm wives have found that a few extra rows can be a profitable sideline.

When growing raspberries there are many varieties to choose from. Trent is early, while Latham is somewhat later. Newburgh is one of the better mid-season kinds; it outyields Viking, another good bearer of the same class.

As plantations of red raspberries may remain in place as long as 15 years, the preparation of the soil is important. In general this is similar to the preparation for strawberries, but the ground should be free of perennial weeds and quack grass.

An established plantation should be fertilized according to one of the following:

- a) An annual fall application of two to four inches of rotted manure (10 tons per acre) placed among the plants, or
- b) An annual spring application of 500 pounds of 5-10-13 chemical fertilizer.

If the customary shallow cultivation with fall cover crop is replaced by mulching, then less manure will be required, but twice as much nitrogen will be necessary, so that the bacteria breaking down the mulch material will be fed. Hardwood sawdust or ground bark make very suitable mulches. They should be replenished each spring.

If irrigation is practiced, it should be carried out in the manner recommended for strawberries. (See story in last month's issue.)

Dormant, disease free (certified) red raspberry canes of the previous season may be planted in either the fall or spring. They may be set three feet apart in rows ten feet apart. If the rows are kept to a 2-foot width, then the aisles will be 8 feet wide. This is a minimum for the use of modern machinery, which grows larger, year by year. Upon planting the canes are headed back to a height of six inches.

Trellising Unnecessary

It has been found at Macdonald College that trellising, in order to keep the berries off the ground, is unnecessary, with most varieties, if the canes are thick and vigorous from good feeding. If trellising must be done, it is a simple matter. Set stout posts at 20-foot intervals in the middle of the row. Attach 18-inch cross arms at a

height of 30 inches above the ground. Nail wire to the ends of these, stringing it along both sides of the row so that the sagging canes will be held between the two parallel strands.

Red raspberries increase by suckers. Fruit is borne on canes of the previous years growth. After fruiting the cane dies. It should be cut out at once, to conserve moisture. In each two feet of row leave ten of the thickest young canes to fruit next year. Remove all others. In each fruiting year there will be new sucker canes coming along as replacements. Spring topping of red raspberry canes to a selected height is often done. This practice is now thought to reduce vigour and yields.

In Quebec province winter protection is not ordinarily necessary for the varieties named here.

Virus diseases occur frequently in raspberries. Their effects may be masked for a time by heavy applications of nitrogen. The only effective control is the destruction of the diseased plants.

If one should notice a broken, bent over cane, the raspberry cane borer, an insect, may be present. Remove such canes six inches below the break, and burn them at once.

In general, one or two applications of a combined insecticide and fungicide may be advisable prior to fruiting.

All the preceding directions and hints concerning the growing of raspberries are much condensed. Nevertheless, by following them closely it should be possible for anyone, after a little experience, to grow these fruits successfully. It can be done for commercial profit or merely for the purpose of replenishing the home larder. The choice is yours.



The old canes are pruned out after they have fruited.

Grass Silage—Its Place On The Farm

by H. A. Steppler

THE PAST ten years have seen a tremendous increase in interest in grass silage—both by the farmer and by the research worker. New machines for harvesting, new preservatives (which are discussed in another article in this issue), and new methods of storage have all contributed to this increase in interest. However, there has been a tendency to overlook one very important aspect of grass silage and that is the role that grass silage plays on the farm and its place in farming operations.

Grass silage is merely preserved forage and as such can be compared to hay. It differs from hay, however, in that it is a wet preservation while hay is dry. Hence grass silage can be made with material having too high a moisture content for hay and also it can be made at a time of year when the weather is unfavourable for haying, i.e. early summer. In addition, well made grass silage will conserve a higher proportion of the nutrients present in the grass at the time of cutting—a very desirable feature when considering the quality of preserved forage.

Now in order to discuss the place of grass silage on the farm, I propose to digress at this point and discuss pastures. In general, the production of pasture drops off very markedly in mid-summer and adequate grazing at that time presents a very serious problem to most farmers. To overcome this, the farmer should initiate a pasture improvement scheme. His objective here is to provide sufficient grazing for this period of low production. This invariably means excess forage in the early part of the season—much more than the animals can possibly graze. If they are allowed access to the entire area they are bound to trample and waste a goodly portion of the herbage. Thus the farmer will restrict the grazing area available to the animals and then will cut and preserve the herbage produced on the ungrazed area.

In preserving this herbage the farmer has one point to keep in mind. He must remove this herbage at a time



Grass silage is made with material which has too high a moisture content for hay; it can be made under almost any weather conditions.

which will permit adequate recovery before the hotter and drier weather in mid-summer—the period when he needs the extra grazing. As a result, he will be cutting at a time of year when the weather does not permit him to make hay. If he delays cutting until he can make hay, then the pasture must recover during the hotter, drier period. Also, many of the desirable pasture species are suppressed if the herbage is allowed to grow to the hay stage.

Grass silage provides the means of preserving the herbage and yet meets the other requirements set down. Grass silage permits the farmer to cut early, to preserve the nutrients, and allows the sward time to recover before it is needed for grazing. To my way of thinking, grass silage is a must if you are to have a well rounded pasture management program on the farm. (I realize that this statement may imply the purchase of silage harvesting equipment and provision of suitable storage, a fact which many farmers would prefer not to face).

(please turn to page 5)

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Principles of Silage Preservation

by J. S. Bubar

Only living and growing material is suitable for making silage. For success the desired fermentation must occur.

THE TWO main processes for preserving forage in Eastern Canada are haymaking and ensiling. Ensiling can be done where haymaking is not practical. Ladino clover can be made into good silage but it is practically impossible to make it into good hay. Good silage has been made from many materials that are often wasted such as sugar beet tops, turnip tops, nettles and wild mustard. Ensiling weeds helps to destroy weed seeds. Ensiling can also be done regardless of weather conditions and so allows forages to be harvested at the most desirable maturity stage.

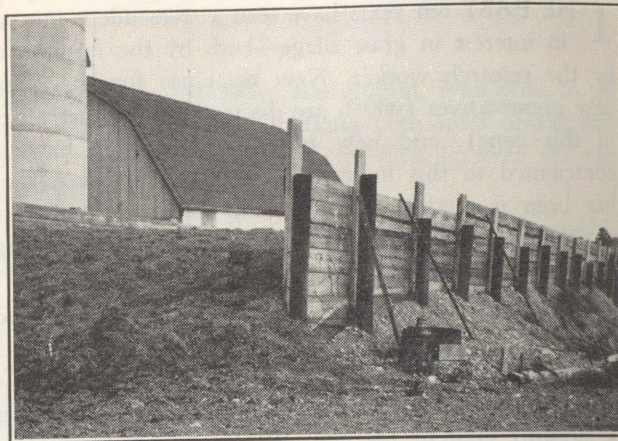
Corn is the main crop used for making silage in North America, for it is well suited to preservation by this process. Other grass and legume crops are also well suited although they need to be handled more carefully than corn.

Any material that a farmer is going to ensile must be living and growing. Plant growth is stopped when it is cut, but it is not killed. The individual cells continue to respire and to burn up valuable plant sugars as long as air and moisture are present. Respiration is stopped by drying with haymaking, by smothering with ensiling. A silo must be air-tight and silage must be packed to exhaust as much air as possible.

Plant sugar losses are minimized if:

- the silo is airtight;
- if the silage is chopped;
- if it is put in immediately after it is cut and if it is well packed.

At the same time, silage must be at the correct moisture content when it is put in the silo. Liquid will run out and



Which preservative to use in making silage depends on the type of silo and the crop being ensiled.

will carry valuable plant sugars away with it if the silage is put in too wet. It will not pack properly and air will cause spoilage if it is too dry. It may be necessary to allow the cut silage to wilt in the field to obtain the correct moisture content.

Respiration will continue inside the silo until the oxygen supply is exhausted. This will produce a concentration of carbon dioxide and some other poisonous gases in the silage and in the space inside the silo above the silage. These gases will smother a man in the same way that they smother the living plants, so don't enter a partly filled silo until the stale air has been blown out.

Respiration inside the silage is important to the silage process as it produces heat, and correct temperature at this stage is needed for the right type of fermentation. If the silage is too wet the temperature will not rise and a more sour smelling silage will be produced. It is not likely to spoil at this stage but it may be less desirable as feed for dairy cattle as it may taint the milk. Some plant sugars will have to be burned up at this stage to produce the necessary heat. If the material ensiled does not have enough available sugars, proteins may be burned up in their place. Molasses or other materials may be added to high protein silage so that the protein materials will not be wasted and to encourage the required fermentation reactions. If the added materials are not needed by the micro-organisms that bring about preservation, they will be available to the animals when the silage is fed. Otherwise they help to insure that the silage will not spoil.

The first fermentation reaction produces acetic acid. This is followed by lactic acid production if adequate supplies of plant sugars are present and if the temperature is correct. The content of lactic acid will build up over a period of two to three weeks until the mass of silage gets quite acid. If the silage is too cold or if air gets in,



A pit silo at the Lennoxville Experimental Farm. J. W. Richardson of the farm staff is standing beside it.

another fermentation reaction will occur and vile smelling butyric acid will be produced.

Properly made silage has practically no odour. Vile odours indicate that valuable feedstuffs are being wasted.

Because there is some risk that the desired fermentation reaction will not occur, especially in high protein feeds such as young grass or clover, several practices have been proposed in which acids or acid forming materials are added directly to forage as it is ensiled. One practice that has been used widely in Europe (where young grasses and legumes are used to make silage) is known as the A.I.V. process. Because it involved adding strong mineral acids directly to the forage being ensiled and because corn is the main silage crop here this process has never become popular in North America.

North American scientists have been searching for other materials that would be as good as the A.I.V. process, but not be as difficult to handle. One of the most promising materials they found is sodium metabisulfite—a salt which can be handled in about the same way as commercial fertilizer. Sodium metabisulfite is used at a rate of from 8 to 12 pounds per ton of unwilted grass silage. The 8 pound rate will be enough in upright silos, which are filled rapidly with chopped material and well packed. Higher rates are needed in trench or pit silos, when silage is put in long or when it is not so well packed.

Sodium metabisulfite works well on unwilted grasses and legumes, which makes direct cutting and chopping practical and makes ensiling less dependent upon weather conditions. The use of sodium metabisulfite is winning farmer acceptance throughout the North-Eastern United States.

Chemical additives have no feed value by themselves although they may conserve some nutrients that would otherwise be used up in the ensiling process. Molasses, ground grain and similar additives do have value as nutrients and the portion that is not used in the ensiling process will become available to the animals that are fed the silage.

The development of sodium metabisulfite is a good example of the scientific approach to an agricultural problem.

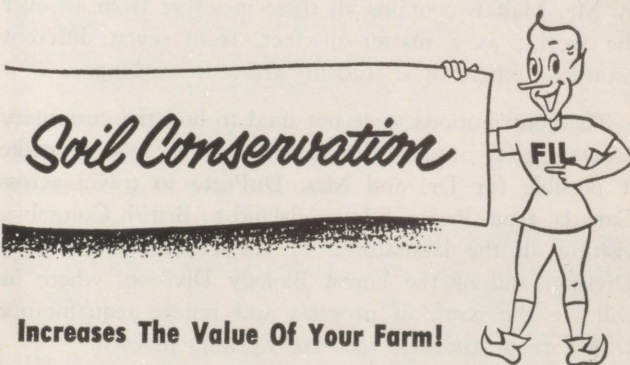


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Many writers in the past have tended to compare grass silage with corn silage on a nutrient basis and cost of production. This, I believe, is not a sound comparison. While it is true that good quality grass silage will have a higher protein content than corn silage, nevertheless good corn will produce more tons of silage per acre than grass, as much as twice the tonnage. Thus a farmer who can grow good corn should not consider replacing it by grass silage, on a feed basis. The grass silage should be considered on its own merits from the standpoint of the role it can play. Corn silage can be considered in almost the same light as grain—recognizing, of course, the climatic limitations on growing corn: grass silage on the other hand is considered an essential part of a pasture program as well as a means of preserving fodder.

Finally we may consider the making of grass silage as part of the regular forage preservation program on the farm. In this case some or all of the fields destined for hay production and possessing high legume content, will be cut and made into grass silage. This will reduce the hazard of making it into hay and also reduce the amount of material which must be stored as hay. As a rule, forage stored in this manner will be higher quality than if made into hay. This is because it will be out earlier and also there is less loss of leaf.

Grass silage has a role to play in an improved roughage program.



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*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
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Plant Protection Society Honours Retiring Secretary

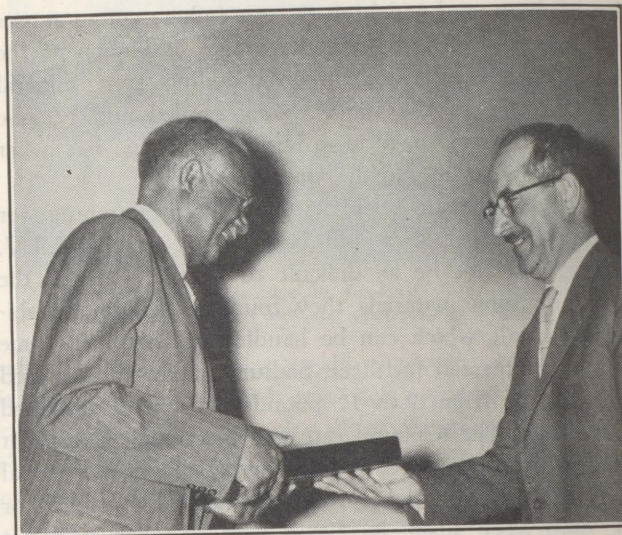
Something different was injected into this year's annual meeting of the Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants, held last month in the auditorium of the Montreal Botanical Gardens. The members assembled for the meeting took time from reading and discussing learned papers on the control of plant diseases and insect pests to pay tribute to their retiring secretary, Dr. E. Melville DuPorte, Professor of Entomology at Macdonald College, who retires from active duties this year after being a member of the College staff since 1914.

Their tribute was unique and the gift they presented to him and Mrs. DuPorte was something considerably out of the ordinary. For some months a committee headed by Dr. E. J. LeRoux and Mr. J. B. Maltais, (both on the staff at the Science Service laboratory at St. John, and both former students under Dr. DuPorte,) worked to contact as many as possible of the students who had studied Entomology at Macdonald College under Dr. DuPorte's guidance. From each they asked for a contribution, and for a message of goodwill.

The response was quick and generous, and the book that is shown in our photo being presented to Dr. DuPorte by Mr. Maltais contains all these messages from all over the world; as a matter of fact, from seven different countries, where these students are now working.

The contributions were not used to buy the customary farewell gift; instead, the money will be used to make it possible for Dr. and Mrs. DuPorte to travel across Canada, from Prince Edward Island to British Columbia, visiting all the laboratories of the Federal Entomology Division and of the Forest Biology Division, where he will see the work in progress and renew acquaintance with former students, who are working in each.

The Committee worked out all details of the trip ahead of time, planning for their guests to be met at each stage along the way and when their visit at one place is over, to see them to the next stop. The tour will be made in three stages. At the beginning of June Dr. and Mrs. DuPorte start on the first leg, commencing their tour at Belleville and travelling through Southern Ontario. After returning home for a short rest, they will take off again, this time to visit laboratories in Quebec and the Maritimes. The August trip will take them to Ottawa, Central Ontario, then through the west as far as Vancouver.



The Society's president, Dr. J. S. L. Daviault, in charge of the Forest Entomology Laboratory in Quebec, paid tribute to Dr. DuPorte's many years of service to science, especially in the training of entomologists and told the members present that Dr. DuPorte's first scientific paper to be published had appeared in the proceedings of the Society for the Protection of Plants in 1915. Mr. Maltais also had some gracious words of appreciation for Dr. DuPorte, and pointed out that he had been secretary of the Society for the past 15 years.

Our congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. DuPorte, and a wish for a very happy summer.

How Good Is Our Seed?

The Department of Agriculture is carrying on with its investigation into the quality of seed being used by Quebec farmers, this spring in the counties of Pontiac, Gatineau, Hull, Papineau and Labelle. About 20% of the farmers in these counties have been visited and samples of seed being used sent to the Plant Products laboratory for analysis.

Each farmer concerned will be sent a report of the analysis so that he will have an idea of what kind of seed he is planting; how pure it is, how well it germinates, and what seeds besides the crop seed it contains.

Previous analyses of this kind have revealed that a great deal of seed sown should never have been put into the ground. It is to be hoped that a better result will be obtained from this area than has been recorded from others in previous years.

Of Blueberries And Syrup

There are two crops in Quebec which bring substantial cash revenues into the farmers' pockets, and which are there for the labour of taking—blueberries and maple products. The blueberry crop is an important item in the economy of the northern part of the province, but while at present the crop is sold as fresh fruit, the Horticulture Service of the province is investigating other ways of disposing of the crop. For example, laboratory investigations carried out some years ago at the instigation of the Director, J. H. Lavoie, have indicated that an excellent wine can be made from blueberries, and it appears that they can also be used to make a very good brandy.

The maple products crop is another important source of revenue; there are some 21,700 Quebec farmers who tap 22 million maples every spring and take in anywhere from 8 to 10 million dollars a year, depending on the run and the prices they can obtain. High prices on the export market a few years ago, when certain American firms, fearing a shortage, bid prices up unrealistically, caused higher than normal prices to be asked on the local market too. Although the export price has fallen, during the past year or so farmers have still been asking a price for syrup and sugar which the local consumer has balked at paying. However, it seems that the law of supply and demand is re-asserting itself, and the 1957 crop is moving at prices that are more in line with reality.

The Department maintains an experimental maple products laboratory at Plessisville, and here Mr. Jules Methot, Chief of the Maple Products Division, and his staff carry out work which they hope will improve the province's crop. They try out new ideas of all kinds; they experiment with different models of spouts; they try new shapes for sap buckets, and new materials. Of late, they have been working with the new-type plastic bags to see how they compare with the metal bucket. They have been doing a lot of work on the best ways of boiling down the sap, and have found that the best flavour and aroma come when the sap is boiled rapidly during the early stages (up to the point where it tests 15% sugar) and then slowing the evaporation down in the finishing stages. They report that the 28 ounce can, filled with hot syrup and headed at once, is the only type of container that will preserve the original aroma and flavour of the newly-made syrup indefinitely. Once opened, the familiar gallon tin should be emptied almost at once, otherwise the syrup will not keep fresh and sweet; and besides, most householders find that a gallon of syrup is too much to have on hand open.

Farmers are being urged to replace their old evaporators (although they are a vast improvement over the iron kettle that was used a few generations ago) by improved models patterned after those developed at Plessisville.

Already the tin buckets have given way in most places to aluminum ones that will not contaminate the sap with lead from the solder; better evaporators are the next stage in the modernization programme; and better containers are already appearing in greater and greater numbers, though syrup will probably continue to be sold in the gallon can for many years yet.



This elaborate sugar house at St. Dominique, built into the side of a hill, is hardly typical. It contains a beautifully panelled room designed for receptions and parties, and a smaller dining room as well as the usual evaporating equipment.

Sheep Breeders Meet

The executive of the Eastern Townships Sheep Breeders' Association sent out 150 notices of the annual meeting, held in Sherbrooke on April 25, but attendance of members was disappointingly small. However, the business of the meeting was disposed of and some discussion about the future of sheep breeding, and of the techniques of delivering acceptable wool, took place.

The sale held in October, secretary Bernard reported, had brought out 63 rams and 104 ewes, which sold for average prices of \$43.71 and \$23.65 respectively. Of these the Department of Agriculture took 31 ewes for an average of \$48.60 and 65 rams which averaged \$24.45. A field day at Sweetsburg had also been part of the summer programme, but here attendance had not been up to expectations, although a good programme was gone through.

Discussion of ways and means of arousing more interest in sheep brought a suggestion from agronome Lambert that something more be done to get sheep clubs going well among 4-H groups, perhaps in conjunction with the calf club work. Carrying on the idea, Dr. Adrien Morin thought that a week-long short course on sheep, if one could be arranged at Lennoxville, Macdonald College or some other suitable place, might interest the younger people in becoming promoters for sheep raising.

Spring Sale Average Up

With a bid of \$1550 for an Aberdeen Angus bull its highlight, the seventh spring sale of the Quebec Beef Cattle Association set higher prices in general than were realized last year, and Herefords, Aberdeen Angus and Shorthorns moved through the auction ring, if not briskly, at least at a steady pace throughout the afternoon of April 25th.

Ben Lavin of Knowlton paid the high price of the sale for L. S. Kerr's Angus bull, Black Prince of Bridlington, and a female from the Kerr herd, Witch of Bridlington, went to the same buyer at \$825, the highest price for females.

Shorthorn top was \$975, bid on behalf of Mrs. A. M. Skinner of Senneville for Burnton Gustav, an imported bull consigned to the sale by Mrs. T. C. Stuart of Arundel. \$400 was the top price paid for a Shorthorn female, again by Mrs. Skinner for Canterbury Lady, consigned by Calvin Chapman of Bury. This white cow was junior champion at the Winter Fair at Sherbrooke in 1956.

The large crowd in attendance, many of whom were in a buying mood, warmed to their task during the selling of Herefords, which led off the sale. The best price in this breed was the \$700 bid by M. T. Stenson of Sawyerville for Green Hills Larry, consigned by John Nichol & Sons of Lennoxville. Larry is a son of a bull which sold for \$100,000 at the Hillcrest Farm Sale in 1954, one of the top Register of Merit sires in the United States. In females, the top bid of \$430 was made by J. Carpentier of St. Tite for Miss Dandy Domino, consigned by J. P. A. Smythe of St. Scholastique.

The largest single buyer was M. T. Stenson, who took the Hereford bull already mentioned and five females. The Production Service of the Department of Agriculture bought promising young bulls of all three breeds.



This bull brought the highest price ever bid at Sherbrooke. S. L. Kerr sold him to Ben Lavin for \$1550

Average of Prices

		1957		1956
Hereford males	\$435.00	for 9 head		594.00
females	280.42	" 12 "		273.00
Angus males	673.33	" 6 "		351.00
females	389.65	" 14 "		316.00
Shorthorn males	394.55	" 11 "		391.00
females	227.08	" 12 "		211.00

During the afternoon 64 head went through the ring, with Art Bennett the auctioneer and agronome Don MacMillan sales manager. The chairman of the sales committee was Robert Laberge of Danville. The back section of the Arena building, a dreary area at the best of times, had been worked on by the committee in charge, and conditions in general, especially the lighting, were much better than they were last year. It had been hoped to have the sale out of doors, but cool weather and cloudy skies on the day of the sale made an outside sale impossible.

Consignors to the sale were:

ABERDEEN ANGUS: E. Chalifoux, Sillery, Chas. Irving, Scotstown, S. L. Kerr, Vaudreuil, Dr. G. R. McCall, Lachute, L. T. Porter, St. Andrews East, E. G. Smith, Magog and Chas. Graham, Ile Perrot.

HEREFORD: Alex McDonald & Sons, Sherbrooke, John Nichol & Sons, Lennoxville, J. C. Routledge, Georgeville, J. P. A. Smythe, St. Scholastique, M. T. Stenson, Sawyerville, Tanner Bros, Windsor Mills and E. T. Webster, North Hatley.

SHORTHORN: Calvin Chapman, Bury, Hector Brunelle, Gould, C. Gaulin, Bury, Mrs. Pitfield, Saraguay, Mrs. A. M. Skinner, Arundel, C. C. Warner, Lennoxville, and E. S. Watson, Bury.



In characteristic pose, auctioneer Art Bennett calls for bids.

Production-Line Farming

"Exploit success rather than re-inforce failure" has been the watchword for the Veterans Land Act since the end of World War II. This policy has resulted in satisfied farmers and a satisfied government, Brigadier J. Rutherford, Director of V.L.A. told a recent meeting of the Montreal Farmers' Club.

Of the millions of dollars loaned to veteran farmers under V.L.A. since World War II there is only \$8000 in outstanding interest payments and no one farmer is behind in payments to the government by more than \$100. This situation is vastly different from what it was after World War I. Of the \$117 millions loaned to the first war veterans only \$57 millions had been re-paid by 1946. Quebec has the best record of collections, (after World War I she had the worst) with B.C. a close second.

Why was there such a vast difference after World War II? Brigadier Rutherford attributes it to the high quality of the field supervisors and a realistic attitude to farm problems. The supervisors have worked in partnership with the veterans and, being well trained, have supplied the farmer with a great deal of help and sound advice. For V.L.A. purposes Canada is divided into 32 regions and there are 245 field supervisors.

Farm planning is looked upon by V.L.A. supervisors as being the most important single factor in the successful operation of a farm. To aid farm settlers in making a better living from the soil officials and supervisors of V.L.A. have developed a system of production-line farming for the family-sized, grassland-livestock farm. It is a plan that will help give a farm the efficiency of modern industrial plants.

At the Farmers' Club meeting various members of the V.L.A. staff were on hand to present various sections

of the Production-Line Farming plan. Themselves so convinced of the value of the plan, these V.L.A. staff men kept over fifty people on the edge of their chairs for an afternoon and evening. The plan indicated up-to-date methods of reducing labour and equipment requirements, and of developing economic production and bringing the farm to an economic size through an integrated farm plan.

The plan is designed to help save the family-size farm and enable it to compete with the "corporation" farm.

Brigadier Rutherford pointed out that it takes three times as much capital per man for an efficient farm as it does to operate an efficient industrial concern. Because of this it is necessary that this capital be even more carefully invested in a farm than in other industry. This requires farm credit supervision by experts. If this was properly supplied then the government could lend the farmer up to 80 per cent of his capital requirements. But, he pointed out, personnel for this supervision is lacking at present.

The Brigadier concluded by saying that farms to-day must be bought on the basis of what the farm will produce. Co-operation between the farm settler and V.L.A. supervisor is necessary to see that this is followed, if the farmer is to be successful.

Barley Contest on Again

Farmers in Quebec have been astonished at the yields of barley that have been achieved during the past 10 years by growers who have taken part in the Barley Contest which is run each summer by the Barley Research Institute in co-operation with the Quebec Brewers' Association and the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

Formerly a province-wide affair, of late the contest has had to be held regionally, because so many farmers want to get into it. In 1957 the area covered will be all counties north of the St. Lawrence, from Pontiac to Charlevoix inclusive, but not including Chicoutimi, Jonquiere, Lake St. John, Roberval, Abitibi, Rouyn-Noranda and Temiscamingue.

The regulations governing the contest will be the same as last year, and a total of \$2100 will be available for prizes. The contest is divided into three distinct phases; the crop of each entrant is first judged in the field. There will be 14 regional elimination contests, and the final stage will be the provincial contest when the four winners of each region compete against each other for the top prizes. A man whose crop has placed first all down the line stands to win \$500, to say nothing of the chance he will have to sell his crop for seed. The market for all seed which proves good enough to place in any of the contests is, of course, an interesting one, for other growers will be glad to pay premium prices for it.



Officials of the Veterans' Land Act, photographed at a recent meeting of the Montreal Farmers' Club. Left to right standing are S. O. Robinson, Fred Porter, John Laurent, Bill Thompson and Don Rennie, secretary of the Montreal club. Seated are Dr. Flanagan, club president, and Brigadier Rutherford, Director of V.L.A.

The County Agronome

by Roland L'Esperance

During the summer months the agronome is concerned with problems of production, and disease and insect control on the one hand, and with field days, short courses, and various farmer's meetings on the other.

In the field of crop protection, he is asked for advice on spraying and dusting; he will be expected to recommend certain products and give advice on when and how to use them. He will have to give his help in planning spray programmes, and campaigns for weed control; and when the farmers need extra labour for these tasks, he will help to find men the farmers can hire.

He will be asked questions about making grass silage; will give advice on when to harvest various crops, giving due regard to the condition of the crops and the state of the market for them. He must know the answers to questions about production of seed of clover and timothy; he will describe the value of planting fall rye for green manure; he may be asked how emergency pastures may be provided.

At the same time he will be overseeing the operations of farmers entered in the farm improvement contests and will spread the doctrine of soil analysis and soil amendment with lime.

The county agronome in whose district a better farming contest is going on has a lot of work to do, along with the "special" agronome, in judging the different farms in the contest, and this is a task which requires careful attention to detail, and a wide knowledge of all types of farming. He will spend, at the very least, a week at this particular job.

Judging of crops in the field, which is involved in certain contests, notably the Barley Improvement Contest, is done by the county agronome, which means trips to a large number of farms during the summer.

Organizations of farm women often hold exhibitions of fruit and vegetables; and our friend the county agronome is the one who is called in to act as judge. He also will likely judge at 4-H club shows, after having spent a lot of time with the boys and girls getting ready for these shows.

Toward the end of the summer the tempo of the agronome's work increases, for now we are getting into the exhibition season. There are county fairs and regional fairs, organized by the Agricultural Societies; but the agronome more often than not is expected to judge at least one type of livestock or field crop, and often many. He will also likely be on hand to give help with the general organization of these fairs.

And who is on the job when it comes to a question of new farmers, be they farmers' sons starting on their own,

or New Canadians starting life anew in a different country? The county agronome, of course. In this he collaborates either with the Provincial Farm Credit Bureau, or with the Immigration Department as the case may be.

In October, November and December the work lets up a little; the agronome will be able to spend a little more time in his office, but he will still be busy. Farmers will call on him, or ask him to call at the farm, to discuss plowing systems, drainage (should I dig a ditch or use tile?), soil analysis, the need for lime, seed cleaning, to name but a few. Somebody will want to know about harvesting his sugar beets; someone else will want to change his cropping plan, someone else will want to talk about storing his vegetables during the winter.

With the approach of the Christmas season, the enquiries will start flooding in about finishing, killing and packing turkeys and chickens for the holiday trade. The livestock men will want advice about how to handle their livestock; some of them will want to buy some pure-bred stock, perhaps a herd sire, and will depend on the agronome to confirm their choice, and to tell them how to apply for any financial help the Department of Agriculture may have available for this purpose. He will probably have to give a hand with herd classification, and will organize barn meetings, demonstrations of carcass grading, etc.

Obviously, the above has just touched the highlights of the agronome's busy days at this season of the year. We have not mentioned, for example, the many annual meetings which are held in some parts of the province at this time; Agricultural Societies, Co-operatives, U.C.C. Syndicates and the like, all of which the agronome does his best to attend.

Other affairs with which he is expected to busy himself during the winter months will include taking part in the organization and running of the National Salon of Agriculture, preparing for the Agricultural Merit Competition and the Barley Contest; attending meetings with other members of the Extension Service to lay out the coming summer's programme; visiting farms to encourage farm boys to attend agricultural courses at one of the province's farm schools; preparing material for television, radio and newspaper publicity; helping to arrange purchases and sales of farms in his area; making estimates for the department on such subjects as how his farmers use weed-killing chemicals, how much seed grain is on hand on farms, making a count of pure-bred sires in use, to mention just a few. And finally, his report of activities for the past year must be prepared and submitted to headquarters.

Dear Readers:

What a wonderful time of year! How about forgetting work and coming for a walk? The plum trees are huge drifts of white blossoms about to be shaken to the ground, yet still filling the air with their delightful perfume. The apple trees are showing little pink buds which remind us that it is time to spray again if we want to be able to use the produce. We used the old sprayer to spray brush with so now we need to buy a new can. Every fence line is dotted with trees full of bloom—signs of a good crop year if the weather co-operates.

The new seeding is coming along well. We'll use the early grass for silage and have found the cows prefer it cut as long as possible. Three or four loads of last year's crop were pitched in whole as we couldn't get the use of a cutter when we first needed it. To our surprise the cows eat the whole hay silage in preference to the chopped. They ate more of it and increased in their flow of milk. A neighbour, owner of a cutter too, has found this out so he added a length of hay fork to his track and runs his green hay direct into the silo and says his cows eat more of this than when he cuts it. It is an expensive job to equip with forage implements, so it may be that all we need do is build our silo roofs to handle hay fork tracks.

We're wondering if we should try some Brome grass. Timothy has always produced rank growth as the best fields were broken up a few years ago, but as farm land gets older the potash is used out of the soil and timothy production decreases. Brome grass will give good yields but is somewhat like Reed Canary grass, being a light hay though it is reported as even choking out witch grass and is used to quite an extent on river meadows south of here because of the extent of the witch grass and the race it leads it. I have not yet found out if it will produce on as wet soil as the Reed

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grass and we are doubtful of the results on our clay soil. It does contain 2.4% more protein than timothy, and is later maturing, but care must be used in planting it as it requires shallow covering.

What with the education spread by Farm Forums and Women's Institutes—also a few cases of undulant fever—more and more people are becoming interested in the control of Brucellosis. If we each do our part in extending its control it looks as if

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217-56

possibly we'll soon have a provincial control programme. Maybe we as Farmer Association members could give it a push in the right direction.

The final night of Farm Forum meetings, held with the Sawyerville Farm Forum at Major Wells Bishop's was a gala evening for nearly every member in Compton County was there to enjoy films, speeches, sugar-on-snow, doughnuts, coffee and visiting with friends we hadn't seen since last summer. Bishopton Farm Forum was commended for its work of good will for three of its invalids; the purchase of two wheel chairs and assistance to the Women's Institute in buying a television set for a disabled boy.

It's time we went back to work. The pansies and hollyhocks need transplanting. The tomatoes are in bloom and waiting to be set out in the garden. The peppers are budded. The seeding needs to be finished—so.

Happy planting,

Wally.

The Farm and the Market

by the Staff of the Economics Department

Quebec Agriculture on the Move—

The latest Census shows 11,719 fewer farms in Quebec in 1956 than in 1951. By now the decline must exceed 12,000 farms.

The number of farms in Quebec is now about 122,000 which is about 9% fewer than in 1951. This speed of decline in the number of farms was only exceeded in the Atlantic provinces. The decline in Quebec took place in all but three counties.

Accompanying the decline in number of Quebec farms was a 5% reduction in total farmland (from 16.8 million acres in 1951 to 15.9 million acres in 1956). The net result of the two changes was an increase in the average size of farms from 125 to 130 acres.

These changes bring Quebec's agricultural development into line with that of Canada as a whole. For decades in Canada, the number of farms has been declining and the average size of farms has been increasing. Prior to 1951, however, Quebec did not share in these general trends. This was because

1. the province subsidized the "colonizing" of small farms in frontier areas,

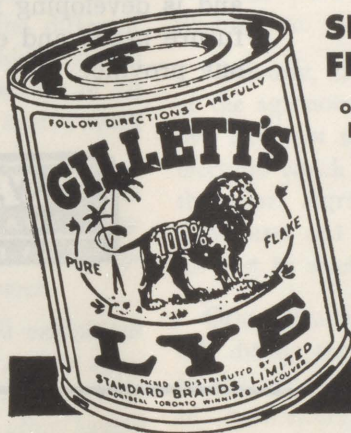
2. Quebec farms had not yet felt the full force of mechanization,
3. the impact of industrialization had not yet been sufficiently strong and pervasive.

In the last few years, however, Quebec agriculture has turned the corner. The exodus from farming has been rapid since 1951 due to a slump in agriculture while the rest of the economy was booming. Quebec is becoming an industrial province.

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The economic changes highlighted here are spectacular enough, but there are also far-reaching social and political effects. The closely-knit rural communities are being thinned out and opened up to all kinds of disturbing influences. The horizons of the farm family are being rapidly extended by influences such as TV. The economic welfare of agriculture requires fewer farms, but the political influence of agriculture depends on maintaining a large number of farmers.

Reducing Waste

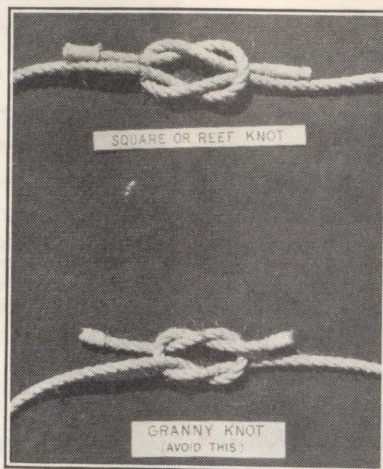
The Royal Bank Letter for November carried an important message on reducing waste, pointing out that it is just as important to reduce waste as to increase income. In fact, to reduce waste is to increase income—profit.

"The recipe for reducing waste is simple: apply sound common sense supported by knowledge of the situation". The trouble is, we live so close to our work that we usually do not see the waste. Did you leave any farm implements outdoors over the winter? Have you ever had to do things over, just because you didn't plan them first? Are you planning to produce this year the kind and quality of products that the Quebec market wants?



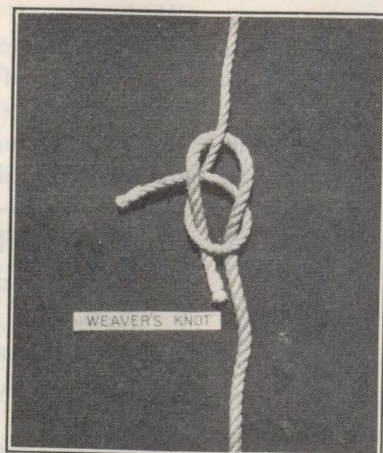
Rope on the Farm

Joining Two Ropes



The square or reef knot is the most useful knot to join two ropes. It needs little comment except to point out that each rope end in the finished knot lies along its own standing part. This is the important feature of the square knot, since it is this fact which explains the friction between the parts which makes this knot so secure. Compare this with the granny knot, where the ends lie across their respective standing parts instead of along them. This knot will slip easily, usually by upsetting into the form of a clove hitch around a straight end. It should be avoided. There are several other knots resembling the granny knot which are equally unreliable, but have the advantage that they are not so likely to be tied by mistake.

The weaver's knot, or sheet bend, is particularly useful for joining ropes of different sizes or different mate-



rials. It is also widely used for joining two balls of binder or baler twine. There are several methods of tying the weaver's knot, depending on the direction taken when passing the end of the larger rope in the illustration behind the standing part of the smaller. The important point is that, in the finished knot, both ends should be on the same side of the knot. If the ends are on opposite sides, the knot will likely slip.

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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*and to matters of interest to them
Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes*

"Stop the Drift"

This is my final article to the Journal as Provincial Convenor of Agriculture. I have enjoyed working with the various county convenors of Agriculture for the past five years and wish to thank all of you for your splendid co-operation. I hope that my successor will also have your support.

The article which follows: "Stop the Drift", was written by Dr. R. F. Schnell, Principal of St. Andrew's College, University of Saskatoon. It seems most appropriate as a last message to our W.I. members, for surely a great deal is still required of country people in the way of Conservation measures, which is one of our own W.I. projects, at all levels, from international to local.

Farm week has become quite an institution—and provides annually an opportunity for our farm folk who still represent the main economy of the province, to meet one another and have an opportunity to meet and hear special talks on various phases of farming. Of course, a lot of people are a bit skeptical of the specialist. I heard of one man who was attending a farm school. And as one of the experts was speaking he leaned over to his neighbour and said: "He thinks he can tell me something about farming—me—I've worn out three farms already". Well, it is obvious that such is not the general reaction to Farm Week, else the institution would not be so firmly established as it is.

My direct relationship with the farm goes back 20 years or so. A good number of you will remember those days. The big problem then was soil erosion. The wind seemed to blow incessantly. The skies showed not a rain cloud. The soil was powder dry. The precious top soil was blown for miles, to be piled up in drifts along the fences, or in the fence corners where the industrious farmer had piled the stones he had cleared from his land. The tender shoots of grain, which the farmer had but recently sown in hope, where cut off, killed, the seeds often blown out by the roots. The drift was a killer, it was deadening.

It was deadening not only for the grain—it was deadening for the farmer too. Something happens to a man when he tills the good earth, sows his seed in hope, feeling that perhaps things will be better next year, only to have his hopes repeatedly shattered, literally gone with the wind. It may break his spirit. The drift almost did that to a lot of our people.—It was a picture of discouragement, of tragedy. And it is not overdrawn—the drift was a dreary, deadening thing. The number one problem in farming those days was to stop the drift.

Some time ago I received a letter from the Agricultural Institute of Canada. I don't know what was in the letter, but I saved the envelope. The stamp cancellation caught

Some one has said that, "Country people with their background of tradition, years of experience, and sound judgment handed down from generation to generation, can still do much to stabilize and influence the world today". Let us measure up to our responsibility!

Our National President, Mrs. Adams, says Dr. Schnell has given us a good slogan. "It could apply not only to our soil but we might watch it in our W.I. activity at any level", is her comment. I leave you with that thought.

ELLA BROWN.

my eye—Stop Soil Erosion. In other words, Stop the Drift.—Now it seems to me that "Stop the Drift" would be a good basic principle not only for soil husbandry, but for living in general. For there are all sorts of drifts—and they can all be deadening.

There is the drift of ignorance. Usually the man to be caught in this drift is the one who thinks he knows it all. But the drift of ignorance is deadening for the farmer today. Farming has become a very involved and intricate business. It's no longer a matter of a horse and a plow, a wagon and a cow. I wonder if there is any business which requires such a variety of skills—a knowledge of the quality and texture of the soil, a knowledge of plant chemistry, a knowledge of chemical fertilizers and weed killers, a knowledge of plant diseases, a knowledge of farm machinery,—how to get a machine so it will do what it is designed to do, motor mechanics, some basic knowledge of accounting practices, animal husbandry, marketing. When times are good perhaps a farmer can get by even though he doesn't know too much. But when things tighten up, then the drift of ignorance can be really deadening. You can pick out the farmer who is going to go under. There's no need to be caught in the drift of ignorance, in these days when there is a Farm Week program, when there are Agricultural representatives, when there is the school and the College of Agriculture, and books and pamphlets readily available.

Then there is the drift of irresponsibility. Here you find a man taking the life out of the land with no concern for the stewardship of the soil. A farmer is a steward—

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Wednesday to Friday, June 26-28

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Annual Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 8

he has a responsibility to God and to his successors to leave the land, not impoverished, dead, but more productive at the end of his farming career than at the beginning. Listen to this statement of responsible stewardship of the land:

"If my land has cried out against me,
and its furrows have wept together,
If I have eaten its yield without payment,
and caused the death of its owners;
Let thorns grow instead of wheat,
and foul weeds instead of barley".

(The Book of Job)

But a man is not just a farmer. He does not live only to himself. He is a citizen, a member of a farming community. And there are many drifts that deaden and

Catherine Mackenzie



(Photo courtesy Sherbrooke Record)

The Quebec Women's Institutes mourns the passing of a valuable and beloved member of the Provincial Board, Miss Catherine I. Mackenzie.

When Miss Mackenzie retired to Stanstead, after a distinguished teaching career in Montreal, she joined the local Institute. She soon became County Convenor of Education and two years ago was ap-

pointed to the Provincial Board in the same capacity.

All were proud of her when she was elected to the Stanstead Municipal Council, the only woman councillor in the Eastern Townships, and the only W.I. member to hold that position.

A fluent speaker and writer, in either language, a fearless champion of wrongs to be righted and a sparkling wit, she earned hosts of friends. Miss Mackenzie's influence on the lives of all those with whom she came in contact can never be measured.

Perhaps these words taken from her last article to this magazine, (January, 1957) sum up Miss Mackenzie's philosophy. Speaking to the younger members she said, "You may call your education on the road to completion when your own children, their friends, and neighbours, arrive safely at maturity". To which we might add the quotation with which she closed that article, "Many daughters have done virtuously but thou excellest them all".

destroy the life of the community. Here the winds blow in all directions unless you can put some wind breaks. You can name the drifts in community life as readily as I can—the drift of indifference, lack of concern for that happens in the community, whether it is a clean and wholesome place in which young and old can live, and live abundantly. There is the drift of dishonesty; there is the drift of materialism—thinking that the only thing that counts is the dollars you can amass, or the car you drive, the equipment you can purchase, and call your own. Of course, these things are important, many of them are necessary, but you can be a rich fool in your attitude toward them.

There is the drift of selfishness—a deadening concern for that which helps number one. You can name other drifts. They are all deadening, destructive of both individual and community living. So I suggest to you this as a keystone in your philosophy of living—Stop the Drift.

Now where does this process of stopping the drift begin? With you, of course, whether it is a matter which concerns a group alone, if there is such a thing, or whether it is a matter that concerns a group with which you are associated, the process begins with an individual who is concerned enough and courageous enough, and honest enough, and sincere enough to stand up and face into the wind. And if you do it, you will find, I am sure, satisfaction in living, because you will fulfill a triple responsibility—to yourself, to your fellow man and to your God. There's a thrill in store for you when you Stop the Drift.

The Month With The W.I.

Many membership renewals are reported in the Canadian Association of Consumers. The Q.W.I. is endeavouring to make April the month to have this done, new Home Economics convenors are appointed by that time, and it does make the work easier at CAC headquarters to have a fixed time for these to come in—a membership year. It is gratifying that so many are adopting this procedure, about half the branches to date. This is much appreciated by the CAC.

Argenteuil: Brownsburg held brief discussions on "Fluoridation of the Town Water Supply", and "The Provision of a Playground for Pre-School Children". A talk was given on the beginnings of the W.I. movement and Mrs. Hoodless. A competition was held and three projects planned for the coming year. *Frontier* heard items of W.I. work by the convenors and had a contest on words beginning with "Sun". *Jerusalem-Bethany* held a contest on birds and had a paper on Gloxinias. Donations were given to the Red Cross, and to a needy family. *Lachute* made arrangements to attend cooking classes and heard an illustrated talk by the County President on a trip to South Carolina, Georgia and Gulf

of Mexico. *Upper Lachute-East End* had a talk on the "Dial System", by Mr. Pearson of the Bell Telephone Company. A quilt was donated to the Red Cross, another sold to raise funds, and a gift certificate given to a needy person.

Bonaventure: *Black Cape* enjoyed a film and appointed a film committee. Plans were made for a display of handicrafts, flowers and canned goods at the Fall Fair and an article was read on pasteurization of milk. *Grand Cascapedia* brought knitted squares for the WVS, sent a box to a needy family where there is a new baby and made plans to present swings to the playground of the local school. *Marcil* entertained Mrs. C. E. Dow, former FWIC President, who outlined plans for a modified school fair. She also spoke about the 60th anniversary of the W.I. and showed clippings and pictures pertaining to that event.

Mrs. E. Vautier, Convenor of Education, prepared a "Gallup Poll" on "Financing of Education" during Education Week, receiving many constructive replies. A new member was welcomed. *Matapedia* reported six members with perfect attendance during the past year. Reports by the convenors showed much progress. A reading on Education was given and a community sing ended the meeting. At *Port Daniel* each member was presented with a sprig of shamrock by the hostess. Material for aprons was donated by a member. *Resti-*

gouche heard an article on cancer, another on George Christian Hanna, and held a baby shower for one of the members.

Brome: *Abercorn* had a paper on "First Aid". Donations were given towards prizes in Sutton High School and to the School Library. *Austin* held a flower and plant exchange and prepared the coming year's program. *Knowlton's Landing* had papers on "Growing Perennials from Seed" and "Soil and Fertilizers for Flowers". Cotton was received from Eaton's and Simpson's and distributed. *South Bolton* brought in articles for the Hope Chest, also a painting. Tentative plans were made for an old and new sale and the County annual meeting, (entertained by this branch).

Chat-Huntingdon: *Aubrey-Riverfield* heard a paper on a "Family Takes Root", a humorous reading, "My Father and the Radio" and had a quiz on flowers. *Dundee* had a demonstration on how to make flowers from fibrewood (Ice box). A contribution of \$5 was sent the National Foundation Fund (N.F.F.) and a package of food given Huntingdon Hospital. The talk was "Interesting Foods of Other Lands". *Franklin Centre* held a round table discussion on syrup marketing. Mr. Leon Beaudin, Agronome, spoke on "Farming in Canada" with a question period following. Demonstrations were given on making maple syrup candy and a circular skirt. *Hemmingford* heard speeches made by the three winners of the Public Speaking Contest (which had been held in the school). A white elephant sale was held and a rug making course is the monthly project. *Huntingdon* heard a discussion on rules for a public speaking contest and held a spelling match. Quilts made by members were displayed. *Ormstown* heard a talk on planting and care of seeds followed by a question period. Papers read were: "How to Plant and Care for a Hedge", "Planned Cooking to save the Electric Bill", and "Fire Hazards in the Home". A hooked rug was exhibited by a member.

Compton: *Bury* had a discussion on the Dental Clinic. A demonstration on cake decorating was given by Mrs. Goode and articles for the Tweedsmuir Competition were displayed. *Brookbury* gave a donation toward the benefit fund. *Canterbury* held discussions on "Price of Sugar", "The Story of Tea and How Many Cup Made from One Pound" and "The Care of Your Clothing". Flannelette has been purchased to make clothing for needy children and a box of clothing was packed for Hungarian Relief. *Cookshire* reports a busy meeting with items from the Hope Chest on display. Films were shown: Grading of Fords and Royal Agriculture Winter Fair, and a talk given by Miss McRae on Music Appreciation. The Crown Laundry donation was \$5 and 90 knitted squares were made for WVS. Members made 20 pairs of gloves at the recent class and a card marathon was a financial success. *East Angus* gave a donation to the Boy Scouts, held a hat course, and gained two new members. A prize



Lochaber presents a gift of an electric frying pan to Mrs. J. K. Angus in recognition of her long and outstanding service to the W.I. Mr. Angus is standing behind his wife's chair.



The ceramics class at Ste. Annes, where the instructor, Mrs. Lariviere (standing at back) conducted a most successful course.

was awarded to Mrs. A. Ratcliffe for best attendance in the past year. *East Clifton* held a Chinese auction, are making a quilt for sale and brought in articles for the County project. A paper on Welfare work was read. *Sawyerville* provided cod liver oil for the school children during the year, made clothes for Save the Children Fund and gave old cotton to the Cancer Society. *Scots-town* gave a donation to the Red Cross. Library books were sorted, some were sold to members and some given to the High School. Cotton was supplied for cancer dressings for a patient in town.

Gaspé: *Sandy Beach* remembered a sick member in hospital and sent nine uniforms to WVS. A quiz with prizes formed the program. *Wakeham* completed 24 uniforms for WVS. An article on first aid in the home was read by the convenor of Welfare & Health. Talent money amounted to \$33 and book rentals were profitable. A new work calendar has been started. *York* displayed Tweedsmuir Competition articles and showed two films: *How to Buy Fruits and Vegetables* and *Native Lure of Canada*. A card party was successful and two new members welcomed.

Gatineau: *Aylmer* had Mrs. Ellard as speaker on the new Quebec Marketing Board Act. A discussion was held, "Television or Radio". *Eardley* made 12 uniforms for WVS and discussed the new program. *Kazabazua* members acted as canvassers for the Red Cross Drive. *Lower Eardley* heard a report by Mrs. Jamieson, Convenor of Welfare & Health of a meeting held to make arrangements for a School for Retarded Children in Gatineau County. Several papers were given and Miss Fuller gave a demonstration, "How to get the most value from your Sewing Machine". *Rupert* heard instructions on "How to Wash an Orlon Sweater". Plans were made to put brick siding on the W.I. Hall and flower seeds and red maples are to be provided for Rupert Cemetery. The School Fair was discussed. *Wright* heard a review of the CAC Bulletin. Articles on Dairy Foods were read, literature on milk distributed, and a discussion held on Hospitality. The sum of \$228 was collected during the Red Cross Drive. The Mystery Box was won by a new member and money raised by a "Touch and Take" sale.

Jacques Cartier: *Ste. Annes* handed in uniforms for the WVS. Small plants were distributed by the Convenor of Agriculture. Members are to care for them until September when they will be judged and prizes awarded. Articles for the Hope Chest were displayed. About \$150 was made from the annual Spring Tea and Home Baking Sale and one month's supply of milk was given a needy family. Two new members were enrolled.

Missisquoi: *Dunham* entertained the Q.W.I. President, Mrs. Harvey, who spoke of her trip to England and Scotland and outlined her impending trip to Ceylon. Mrs. Creller, County President, accompanied Mrs. Harvey, reporting on the Board meeting. A quiz, "Cake Romance" was held. *Cowansville* heard Mrs. Gibson give a talk on Ceylon and its W.I. Mrs. Winsor spoke of Camp Laquemac, its program and purpose, and urged support for the Hobby and Antique Show, a local project. *Fordyce* also had a visit from Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. Creller, giving similar talks here. Traffic Safety was discussed and plans made for a quilting. This branch hears a report from each convenor at each meeting and "Talent Money" is turned in by every member at each meeting. A donation was given the Cowansville High School Bursary Fund. *Stanbridge East* members displayed their articles for the Hope Chest. A talk on the Hobby Show at Cowansville was given by a member—several members are exhibiting.

Papineau: *Lochaber* sent \$5 to CARE and gave flowers to a life member on her 92nd birthday. Another faithful member, Mrs. Angus, received a gift. (see picture).

Pontiac: *Bristol* held a busy meeting. *Clarendon* gave donations to the Cemetery, Cancer Society, Orphan Homes, Red Cross, and assisted in purchasing dishes for the High School. *Elmside* held a sale of donated articles and presented the new program. *Fort Coulonge* gave a donation to a family who has lost their home by fire. The Polio Penny Race was completed with Mrs. Frumerton's team the winner. *Quyon* sent used cotton to the Cancer Society, donated food to the Hospital Charity Ball and money to the Red Cross. At *Wyman*, two members who joined the Institute when organized in 1913 still



The Ste. Annes Branch held its annual dinner dance recently, and the president Mrs. James Houston, is shown greeting husbands and friends at this event.

take an active interest and are now busy making a quilt for a family who lost their possessions by fire.

Quebec: *Valcartier* heard a health talk by Mrs. Boston on, "Worry, the Cause of Many Ills". Plans were made to send Sunshine to several shut-ins and cotton was sent the Cancer Society.

Richmond: *Cleveland* had a handicraft exhibit. Life membership pins were presented to Mrs. H. Taylor and Mrs. G. Fletcher for many years of active service. Two prizes were donated to the Richmond County Fair. *Dennison Mills* has completed 12 uniforms for WVS and members are making quilt blocks. *Melbourne Ridge's* motto for the month "An Institute which cannot provide at least one good laugh at a meeting is a flop!" The Hope Chest articles were displayed. A donation of \$15 was given the Q.W.I. Service Fund. Donations of remnants were received from several firms, and money was raised by food and remnant sales. *Richmond Hill* had demonstrations on Cake Decorating and Fancy Sandwiches. Sales were held, two children's quilts and clothing sent to Hungarian Relief and money donated to the Boy Scouts. *Richmond YWI* had a sale of remnants and car rug and is planning a rummage sale. *Spooner Pond* is sending a quilt for the Convention display. A true or false contest on the W.I. Handbook was held and assistance given with lunches at St. Francis High School. Mrs. Coddington displayed her painting which will be entered in the Tweedsmuir Competition. *Windsor* had films on the Dial Telephone. Gifts were presented to two brides-to-be by the County President and talent money was raised for the Girl Guides.

Rouville: *Abbotsford* sent the collections from their meeting to CARE. Miss F. E. Campbell, Macdonald College, spoke on a painting course to be held this summer. One life membership and three other gifts were presented to four retiring officers.

Shefford: *Granby Hill's* Citizenship Convenor spoke of exchange programs with New Zealand, and the Agriculture Convenor mentioned the new idea in cream cans, made of plastic. A donation was given to the Granby High School for their year book and 22 knitted squares have been made for Hungarian Relief. *Granby West* had a discussion on a Family Party for the Autumn, also on earning talent money. A contest was held on "Know Your City". Two members, leaving the community, were presented with gifts. *Waterloo-Warden* read pamphlets from the United Nations and renewed membership in the Association. Squares for WVS have been made and articles for the Tweedsmuir Competition were displayed. Assistance was given with school prizes, and a contest held.

Sherbrooke: *Ascot* held a food sale and had a conducted tour of the Sherbrooke Crown Laundry. *Belvidere* gave proceeds from a sale to the Red Cross. A work calendar and nine towels were turned in and gifts were presented to the retiring President and Treasurer. *Brompton Road* heard an article on the "Friendship Cane".

Members attended the Cancer Dressing Station and made 40 pads and 90 bandages. An auction and food sale was held and money voted to buy library books for Grade V in Mitchell School. *Lennoxville* held a food sale. Members worked at Cancer Dressing Station and donated used cotton. *Milby* provided hot lunches for a school child. Members attended a tour of the Sherbrooke Crown Laundry.

Stanstead: *Beebe* heard an address by Mrs. Beaucage, President Sherbrooke Branch for the Help of Retarded Children, also Mrs. Little, a volunteer worker at the School for Retarded Children in that county. Articles for the Hope Chest were on display. This was a dinner meeting and four new members were welcomed. *Hatley Centre* heard a talk by Mr. MacDougall on Home Improvement and Care of Flowers. A card party was the money-raiser here. *Minton* received a donation for their general fund from a friend. *Stanstead North's* program was in charge of Past Presidents. Three were present to speak on Denham College in England, Montreal with its changes in the last 35 years and "the good old days in the W.I." *Tomifobia* sent seven uniforms to WVS.

Vaudreuil: *Harwood* is planning a scrapbook to be kept for clippings, pictures, etc. relating to the W.I. Various quizzes were organized by the Home Economics Convenor and 35 hats were made at a course in Millinery. A 10 lb. food parcel was sent Hungarian Relief. *Harwood Singers* have been invited to both the provincial convention in June and the National convention in Ottawa this October.

OFFICE HAPPENINGS

Tweedsmuir Histories

Two questions asked at the Semi-annual Board Meeting have not been fully answered yet. These are —

1. What branches have prepared a Village (Tweedsmuir) History, at any time?
2. If printed, was a copy sent to the Dominion Archives and to the National Library, Ottawa?

Please send replies to the Q.W.I. office. Our national organization is asking for this information.

National Convention

The dates are October 28-31, the place, Ottawa. The *Harwood Singers* have been invited, to appear on Tuesday's program. The question of official and visiting delegates was discussed at county annual meetings. As further information is received from FWIC it will be passed on to all Q.W.I. members.

Another International Conference

The Montreal Council of Women is hostess for the National Meeting, June 3-4, which will be followed by the International Conference, June 5-15, also in Montreal. Already delegates from 29 countries have registered. Programs for the Conference will appear in the press. Mrs. Harvey will be attending for the first few days (will have to leave for Vancouver before it is over) and has been asked by Mrs. Adams to act as her proxy at the official opening on June 6th.

ACWW Conference

Our president, Mrs. Harvey, regrets she will have to leave for Ceylon before our own convention. The Canadian delegation will travel in a party, leaving from Vancouver the middle of June. The Conference dates are July 3-13, and it will now be held in Colombo. The FWIC President, Mrs. Adams, is head of the Canadian group.

A CAC "Cotton Carnival"

The following is an excerpt from a "Cotton Carnival", sponsored by the Town of Mount Royal CAC Branch. Housewives will be interested.

"Valuable information gleaned from the cotton Fashion Shows presented by Dominion Textile Company, included the thread counts of the various qualities of Tex-Made sheets. The "Select" Quality has 132 threads per square inch, giving maximum wear at minimum cost—a fine sturdy sheet, but slightly coarse in texture. The "Colonial" has 142 threads per square inch and the beautifully fine "Combed Percale" has 184. This is information to watch for on labels. Another fact to remember is to launder flannelette sheets in lukewarm water for maximum wear and softness".

Convention Exhibit

The Tweedsmuir entries will be shown at the Convention. At time of writing these were just beginning to come in—some lovely things. In addition, there will be the usual display of members' work, always an important feature of the Convention, enjoyed by the many visitors. This year every branch may show four articles as well as the four items from any craft class. All entries must have been made since the 1956 Convention.

Annual Reports

Do any of our older members know if annual reports were printed prior to 1918? Has anyone annual reports for the three years, 1920-21-22? The office file starts at 1918, has 1919 and then a gap until 1923. If any member has a copy of any of these reports would they be willing to give this prized possession to this office? It would be most gratefully received as we would like to have a complete record.

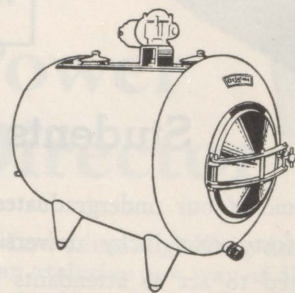


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THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

Students Will Represent Canada At Brussels

Some of our undergraduates are hoping to be among the forty-eight lucky university students who will be selected to act as attendants at the Canadian Pavilion at the Universal and International Exhibition which will be held in Brussels in 1958. To man the exhibit, twenty-four men and twenty-four women students, drawn from universities all across Canada, and chosen so as to give representation from all provinces, will be selected by the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission, which has the task of planning, organizing and administering Canada's exhibit. The chosen students will start their term of employment on March 20th, 1958, and will be released about October 20th; special dispensation from their universities will be needed to permit them to miss a certain amount of time from their studies.

The Canadian exhibit will be built around the central theme of showing how Canadians live; to show the human aspects of their contribution to the spiritual, cultural and social order as well as to the world's economy. The displays themselves, and the materials from which they are assembled, will be carefully chosen to give a striking interpretation of the feeling of rural life in Canada's great farming districts.

Golden grain from the West will be heaped in huge plexiglass bowls of various sizes, hung at different heights from the ceiling. A century-old barn has been taken down and its weathered boards will be shipped to Brussels to be reconstructed within the exhibit.

Three table models, worked out in every detail, will reflect important aspects of Canadian agriculture. One is a mixed farm; one a tobacco farm; one is a large replica of a grain elevator, complete with trains unloading on one side and ships loading on the other.

There will be a diorama of a Canadian marketing town, and transparencies, photographs and murals will show various aspects of family life and community activities in rural Canada. The idea will be emphasized that, in Canada, families are the owners of all the land they can work.

The students who will be on duty in the exhibit, to answer questions about the exhibits themselves and Canada in general, will be most carefully chosen. All will have to speak English and French, and those with additional languages will be given preference when the final selection is made, some time after the 15th of October, 1957.

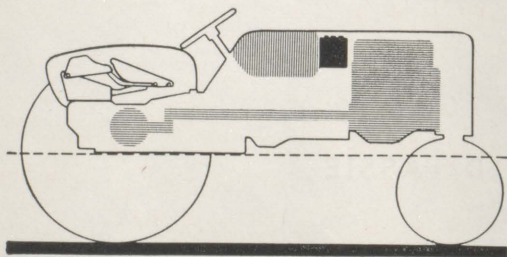
Quebec Junior Farmer Conference

A conference for junior adults of rural communities will be held June 24-28 at Macdonald College. Attendance will be limited to 50 young men and women. Total cost of transportation, board, lodging, tuition and a tour of a Montreal dairy will be \$12.00.

Topics for the 5 day conference include feeding, fitting, showing, and judging of livestock, a look at the farm woodlot, pointers on buying quality food and clothes, planning programs, public speaking, and organizing recreation and entertainment for parties. The program is designed especially to aid members of 4-H Clubs, Junior Women's Institutes, and Guides and Scout Troops. The conference is made possible through the co-operation of the Women's Institutes, Farm Forums, and Macdonald College.

For further information write to Quebec Farm Radio Forum, Box 237, Macdonald College, Que.

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